

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 STR-07 COME-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CTME-00 ITC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

/043 W

-----072468 212215Z /64

R 211557Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6952

USDA/FAS WASHDC

UNCLAS BONN 05140

FAS FOR BERNITZ AND OYLOE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: STAATSSEKRETAER ROHR'S VISIT TO U.S.

1. STINSHOFF, FRG AGATT, WASHINGTON, D.C., HAS INFORMED ROHR THAT THE MAJOR ISSUE U.S. WILL RAISE IN DISCUSSIONS DURING HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP WILL BE THE U.S. NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT. IN ADDITION, STINSHOFF SAID U.S. WANTED TO DISCUSS ACCESS FOR CITRUS, PRUNES, WALNUTS, POULTRY, BEEF, TOBACCO, AND PROTEIN FEED ISSUE.

2. AGATT INFORMED THAT ROHR WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ABOVE BUT WILL RAISE THE QUESTION OF ACCESS TO U.S. MARKET FOR FRG AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, PARTICULARLY CHEESE (BLUE MOLD). MINISTER ERTL AND THE GERMAN FARMERS UNION (VON HEEREMAN) HAVE BEEN MAKING STATEMENTS ABOUT U.S./FRG AGRICULTURAL TRADE, POINTING OUT THAT TRADE CANNOT BE AN "EINBAHNSTRASSE" I.E., A ONE-WAY STREET. (LAST YEAR THE FRG EXPORTED ABOUT \$193 MILLION WORTH OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO THE U.S. AND IMPORTED \$2.1 BILLION)

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3. ROHR ALSO "WANTS TO DEVELOP IDEAS" CONCERNING THE NFD/MSOY PROTEIN IMPORT QUESTION. HE WILL ALSO RAISE THE SUBJECT OF DUTY-FREE BINDINGS ON GRAIN SUBSTITUTES SUCH AS CORN GLUTEN FEED AND CORN GERM MEAL. (FRG IMPORTED NEARLY 570,000 MT OF CORN GLUTEN AND CORN GERM MEAL LAST YEAR, VALUED AT \$90.6 MILLION COMPARED TO

335,000 MT IN 1976, VALUED AT \$48.4 MILLION.)
REPORTEDLY, THE EC IMPORTED TWO MILLION MT OF GRAIN
SUBSTITUTES (INCLUDING TAPIOCA, MANIOC, AND CORN GLUTEN/
GERM MEAL) UNDER DUTY-FREE BINDINGS IN 1977. CONCERN
HAS BEEN REGISTERED BY THE FRG STARCH INDUSTRY,
SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS THE GERMAN FARMERS
UNION THAT DUTY-FREE GRAIN SUBSTITUTE IMPORTS ARE A
LOOPHOLE IN THE GRAIN CAP AND ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN
TO PLACE LEVIES OR TAXES ON THESE IMPORTS. AT THE SAME
TIME, FRG OFFICIALS ARE AWARE OF THE COMPENSATION THAT
WOULD BE INVOLVED IF SUCH ACTIONS WERE TAKEN.

4. AGATT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING COMMENTS/
CONFORMATION CONCERNING TOPICS U.S. EXPECTS TO RAISE
FOR DISCUSSION WITH ROHR.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN05140
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780125-0125
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780344/aaaabley.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a5df60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3261373
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAATSSEKRETAER ROHR'S VISIT TO U.S.
TAGS: EAGR, OTRA, GE, US, (ROHR, STAATSSEKRETAER)
To: STATE AGR
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a5df60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014